

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Western Connecticut State University Art Professor Jurg Lanzrein Pays \$665 for Ethics Violations**

*\$500 civil penalty and \$165 disgorgement*

**August 20, 2010**

Jurg Lanzrein of High Falls, New York, paid a \$500 civil penalty and disgorged \$165, the amount of financial gain he received, for violating the Code of Ethics by entering into two contracts with the State valued at amounts over \$100. Neither contract was awarded through an open and public process, as required by the Code of Ethics.

According to the stipulation and consent order finalized yesterday with the Office of State Ethics (OSE), Lanzrein is a part-time Adjunct Professor in the Art Department of Western Connecticut State University (WCSU). In November, 2006 and again in November, 2007, Lanzrein entered into contracts where WCSU agreed to purchase art supplies from Lanzrein's business, Lanzrein Studio.

Connecticut law prohibits a state employee entering into any contract with the state, valued at one hundred dollars or more, unless the contract has been awarded through an open and public process.

"The Code of Ethics requires all but the smallest contracts to be awarded through an open and public process to prevent the appearance *or* the actuality that public employees have an 'inside track' when it comes to obtaining contracts with the state," said OSE Executive Director, Carol Carson.

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